



Mayor Michael L. Cohen  
Commissioner William A. Fiore  
Commissioner John R. Murphy

# Longport Town Topics

October 2003

## American Legion Post 469 dedicates new monument

It was a stormy night filled with flashes of lightning and a steady soaking rain.

A gathering of several hundred people huddled under their umbrellas, others were in the shelter of the Krechmer Pavilion on Saturday night August 30th, but a small group of veterans remained unprotected from the elements. Sopping wet clothing seemed like a small sacrifice compared to those that made the ultimate sacrifice. Fellow veterans in service and brothers in spirit, the living honored the dead with the dedication of a new Veterans Memorial Monument.

Many attended the dedication including Longport Mayor Michael Cohen, Commissioner Bill Fiore and Commissioner John Murphy, United States Congressman Frank LoBiondo, State Senator William Gormley, Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson

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Standing at attention to honor those who defended and fought for this country's freedom in the past, now and in the future include: Bill Mosca, Joe Martin, Joe Matz, Mike DiNoia, Dr. Joe O'Neal, Billy Ray and Joe Viola. Joe Milone and Tom Schnepf fired the rifle salute.



(Left) Senator William Gormley delivers a speech at the monument dedication. (Below) Congressman Frank LoBiondo also shared his sentiments regarding the veterans' new memorial.



(Left) Post Commander Sam Cianci ordered for the dramatic unveiling of the new monument pictured below.



photo courtesy of American Legion Post 469

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and Atlantic County Commander Ike Reutter.

The creation of a new monument was a goal the American Legion truly wished to accomplish this year and is grateful to all who helped by giving donations to the legion.

When choosing the new memorial, the legion was looking for a design that was unique and above all, a dignified monument fitting to honor those in the service.

The new design incorporates art with science and history. The sundial-like face of the monument has been calculated so a shadow will fall on a bronze medallion strategically placed on the monument, each denoting the exact time and date of a significant event in our military's history.

The legion is hoping that the new monument also will become a field-trip destination for local schools where students can discover a one-of-a-kind lesson blending principles of science, math, and history.

### There she is, Miss America



Miss Alabama Catherine Crosby, and Joe and Denise Baumgardner's daughter, Stefanie smile for a photograph.

## Adding it all up and breaking it down, understanding Longport's tax rate

Longport residents enjoy a win-win situation as the borough's tax rate is the lowest in Atlantic County and its median property assessment is the highest. The relatively high value of properties does allow borough property owners to pay a lower rate than all of the other municipalities in the county.

The tax rate for the borough is all inclusive. More than half of the tax money paid by property owners is used to support Atlantic County, the Atlantic County Library System, the Atlantic County Health System and to provide education for all borough children.

Less than half of a resident's tax bill is used to cover services provided by the borough, which is in fact a full-service community. Longport has a full-time police and municipal court department. It also has a full-service public works department that provides trash and snow removal, beach cleaning and other regular maintenance projects that some small communities in Atlantic County do not provide.

The local tax is only a portion of the total tax paid by property owners. The tax to operate the borough is less than 50% of the total amount you pay since the borough serves as a conduit for the amounts required by the county and school. The only portion under the control of the borough commissioners is the local tax portion of the total tax bill.

### Atlantic County Abstract of Tax Ratables

Taxing District	Total Taxable Value of Land & Improvements	General Tax Rate to Apply per \$100 Valuation
1. Egg Harbor City	\$125,683,000	4.727
2. Somers Point City	\$643,676,500	3.139
3. Egg Harbor Twp.	\$1,865,446,325	2.961
4. Ventnor City	\$1,295,524,693	2.357
5. Margate City	\$1,308,999,000	2.334
6. Longport Borough	\$843,808,600	1.071

- provided by Borough Auditor Bob Swartz

## Atlantic Avenue bay walkway approved by DEP

Longport officials have recently been informed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection that funding has been allocated for a proposed shore protection measure along Atlantic Avenue from 17th to 22nd avenues.

The project would include raising rocks along the bayfront, adding rocks and the creation of a pedestrian walkway.

The project is estimated to cost approximately \$1.1 million with the State paying 75% or approximately \$825,000. The

project is anticipated to start by early Spring 2004 and last approximately two months. Work has begun on the design and a meeting with state officials is slated.

The borough has also requested a \$350,000 grant under the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Program to help offset costs associated with the pedestrian walkway portion of the project.

Previously, the borough had been informed that all state funding for shore protection projects had been cut. Recent correspondence indicates that the state DEP's "shore protection budget has been fully restored."

# First of Longport luncheons warmly welcomes you Oct. 22nd

Residents will not be able to sail in on the Nina, Pinta or Santa Maria, but will discover a room full of edible treats when they arrive.

Longport residents are welcomed to kick off the winter season of holiday luncheons with a Columbus Day party. The Italian voyager would have appreciated our festive touch of Italian music provided by Tony DeLuca.

The event will be held upstairs on the second floor of Borough Hall in the Centennial Ballroom from noon until 3 p.m. Lunch

will be served promptly at 12:30 p.m.

Seating is limited to 150 residents and spaces are filling rapidly. Attendance to the event is by RSVP only. Please call 823-2731 ext. 100 or 119 to reserve a seat.

The event is paid for by local sponsors, businesses and organizations. Sponsors of this event include Richard Carter of CBA Engineering, Thomas Subranni, Esq. and James Klinghoffer.

**Additional sponsors are being sought for upcoming luncheons. Please call 823-2731 ext. 119 for details.**



Last year's final Holiday Luncheon featured a St. Patrick's Day theme. The series was a hit, with many requesting that it be repeated again this year. The program begins for its second year on Oct. 22nd, several additional holiday luncheons have been added to the program for a total of seven. The luncheons are sponsored by local residents, businesses and organizations.

Sponsorships and partial sponsorships are still available for anyone interested, for more information please call 823-2731 ext. 119.



## Longport Post Office considers reduction of business hours

In a measure to continue customer service and improve efficiency, local United States Postal Officials are considering reducing hours of service in the building located at 27th Avenue. Residents will still have access to post office

boxes and mail collection will remain the same.

There is talk of installing an automatic stamp vending machine in the building, but nothing official, yet.

Keeping Longport postal customers in mind and their busy schedules, the post of-

fice is considering extending office hours for the winter holiday season and for the sum-

mer season, when Longport's population typically increases with summer residents.

## National fire prevention week, fire safety tips

October 5th - 11th is National Fire Prevention Week and this year's message is "Know When to Go! React Fast to Fire!" Planning ahead in case of fire and "knowing what to do" can help save lives. "Once a fire starts . . . there's no time to develop a plan!" For more tips on fire safety please visit <http://firesafety.buffnet.net/>. The first National Fire Prevention Week was proclaimed by President Calvin Coolidge from October 4th - 10th in 1925. Its roots trace back to the Great Chicago Fire of October 9, 1871.

In addition, the Longport Volunteer Fire Department continues to remind residents to have all outside electrical receptacles inspected, as four of Longport's recent fires were caused by damage in these devices. The salt air has a corrosive effect on the receptacles.

## On your mark, get set, go

It was a sandstorm of scuttling feet on the beach at 33rd Avenue as children participated in the annual Mascot Races sponsored by the Longport Beach Patrol on Sept. 6th.



After the race, everybody gathered for a group photograph, including: Beach Patrol Capt. Dan Adams, Zach Moore, Ricky DePamphilis, and Commissioner Bill Fiore.

## Working together to preserve open space for future generations

Many have already taken the opportunity to enjoy our new back bay park. One of the newest additions to the area is a waterfall. If you take a close look inside the pools of water you might see several orange goldfish swimming around.

The bayfront park was funded with the help of an Atlantic County Municipal Open Space Partnership Program grant in the amount of \$57,000. An additional grant from the county for \$60,000 has been received for further improvement to the park area.

The Mayor and Commissioners of Longport would like to express special thanks to Atlantic County and the Municipal Open Space Partnership Program for helping make our borough's beautification program possible.



## Halloween safety tips

The Borough of Longport is sponsoring a night of Halloween treats for children from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on October 31st at Borough Hall, the Police Department, Fire House and the Historical Society and Museum.

The National Confectioners Association recommends the following tips for a safe Halloween.

1. Wear light-colored clothing that is short enough to prevent tripping and add reflective tape to front, sides and back.
2. Make sure children can see well through masks or use cosmetics instead.
3. Adults should accompany young children.
4. Go out in the daylight and carry a flashlight in case of delay.
5. Stay within neighborhoods you are familiar with and only visit homes that you know.
6. Watch for traffic.
7. Only give and/or accept wrapped or packaged candy.
8. Examine all candy before allowing children to eat it.
9. Keep costumed children away from pets. Pets may not recognize the child and become frightened.
10. Avoid hard plastic or wood props, substitute with foam rubber that is soft and flexible.

**Happy Halloween!**



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### Town Topics

Is published by the Borough of Longport as a means to keep the community informed and up to date on current events and happenings in town.

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